

e-News

Clark County Department of Community Development



Welcome to the Clark County Community Development e-News. We send this publication out once a month to announce the latest in what's happening. We will attempt to cover a broad range of topics that we hope will be of interest to you. We need your input! We welcome your comments about our news bulletin; and if you have topics you would like us to cover and we haven't, we'll do our best to accommodate you! ★

'05 Real estate activity

The publication "Market Action" report, put out by RMLS, shows the three most expensive housing areas in Clark County as being more expensive than anything in the Portland metropolitan area. In Oregon, the most expensive areas are Lake Oswego (\$452,600), West Portland (\$410,700) and NW Washington County (\$369,400). In Clark County the most expensive housing areas are West of I-5 (\$470,200), East of I-5 (\$406,200) and SE (\$394,200). From 2004 to 2005, the average sales price went up by 16.4% in Clark County. In the Portland area the increase was slightly less at 15%. However, the average sales price for southwest Washington was \$260,800 compared to the Portland metro area's \$282,900. ★

Development Services update

For Development Services, 2005 was not just another typical year... it was much busier than previous years. During 2005, the county received 1965 applications for preliminary plan reviews. This represents an increase of 291 permits for a 15 percent increase

over 2004 (with 1674 permit requests). The increased 2005 permit activity levels represent a 17percent increase over the previous 5-year average of 1631 permits per year. For additional information on permit activity levels click [here](#). ★

And the winners are...

The following individuals were recipients of Clark County's Our Personal Best award.

Mary Liddle - Quality

Mary Liddle received the award for Quality in recognition of her commitment and delivery of service that meets the highest standards of quality.



Tom Scott, Vern Perry, Kevin Pridemore, and Mike McMahon – Community Wrap-Around Team

This team was recognized as part of a multi-agency effort to improve the safety and health of a home in north Clark County. Their efforts made it possible for the residents, a grandmother and her six grandchildren, to stay together.



Also recognized for her dedication to the citizens of Clark County – **Marian Anderson**. At the State of the County luncheon, the Neighborhood Associations Council presented Marian with the Outstanding Clark County Employee award. ★

Inside:

- ★ '05 Real estate activity
- ★ Development Services update
- ★ And the winners are...
- ★ Rain, rain, go away
- ★ Promotions
- ★ New faces
- ★ ComDev in the news

Rain, rain, go away

You might have noticed that it has rained a bit recently. Large amounts of rain saturate the ground and overwhelm storm facilities. Increased development and impervious surfaces decrease the capacity for stormwater to infiltrate and increase surface runoff. As a result, Code Enforcement receives numerous complaints regarding standing water.

Most stormwater complaints are civil matters. A Code Enforcement inspection will mostly be for technical assistance on how to dispose of the stormwater. Clark County Code requires stormwater control for all new developments, but imposes only minimal requirements for existing developments, and in the rural areas, none. Unless a project triggers permitting requirements, the county has almost no jurisdiction over stormwater traveling from one property to another.

Erosion control is now standard operating procedure. One of the great things about working for the county for a long time is seeing the positive changes in the way contractors conduct business. Builders are more knowledgeable about erosion control and are quicker to correct deficiencies. Home sites without adequate erosion control are rare. Undoubtedly, this will ultimately become just another cost of doing business. ★

Promotions

Adrienne Willows was promoted to Office Assistant III in Animal Control. ★



New faces



Paulette Todd has accepted the Office Assistant II job share position in Development Services. Before working for the county, she owned her own scrapbooking and rubber stamping business and managed 40 employees.

Paulette enjoys indoor soccer, scrapbooking, reading, watching her two sons participate in sports.

Kathy Cossey has accepted an Office Assistant II project employee position in Records. Kathy has done temp work for the past 4 years in various office positions. She also has 30 years of experience with the federal government — 6 years at NCRS-USDA and 24 years at NASA-Ames Research Center.



Kathy's hobbies include sewing and quilting. Kathy has a son, daughter-in-law and two cute grandchildren.



Ginger Blair has accepted an Office Assistant II position in Engineering Services. Prior to joining Clark County, Ginger worked as the B2B director of GiftTree.

Ginger moved here from San Diego, CA with her boyfriend Corey in 2002. At one point, Ginger and Corey's family consisted of 5 cats. All



Quick Clicks

- Comprehensive Plan Update
- Data Library
- Team Focus
- Department Calendar

Divisions

- Animal Control
- Building Division
- Code Enforcement
- Permit Center
- Development Services
- Engineering Services
- Fire Marshal's Office
- Long Range Planning

but one were rescued animals, but she says “the others were never told that one of them came from a pet store”.

Glenda Copeland

has accepted the Office Assistant II job share position in Development Services. Before moving to Vancouver, she held positions as a bookkeeper and supervisor of medical receptionists at two urgent care clinics in Anchorage, AK. She relocated with her husband, John, because of his job with the USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service.



When not working, Glenda enjoys reading, riding bikes, hiking and traveling in her fifth-wheel travel trailer. She has two grown children and one granddaughter.



Lynette Burns has accepted the Office Assistant II telephone receptionist position in Administration. Lynette has worked for Community Development for nearly a year as a temporary employee in Development Services and Long Range Planning. Lynette has a strong customer service background gained through six years as a customer service representative with C-Tran.

In her personal life, Lynette enjoys reading, traveling, and hanging out with her sons, Nick and Jason.

Traci Carick has accepted an Office Assistant II project employee position in Records. Traci brings more than eight years of office support experience to Clark County.



Traci enjoys spending time with her family – husband of 20 years, Jim, son, Corey and daughter, Kylie.★

ComDev in the News

Tribes buying acreage for casino
The Columbian 2-21-06

<http://www.columbian.com/news/localNews/02212006news931.cfm>

Holiday construction illegal in Ridgefield The Columbian 2-21-06

<http://www.columbian.com/news/localNews/02212006news914.cfm>

Pipe-warming effort blamed in home fire The Columbian 2-18-06

<http://www.columbian.com/news/localNews/02182006news276.cfm>

Cell phone tower or flag pole? Answer soon The Columbian 2-12-06

<http://www.columbian.com/news/localNews/02122006news186732.cfm>

Fireworks retailer blasts show sponsor The Columbian 2-9-06

<http://www.columbian.com/news/localNews/02092006news160822.cfm>

Homes found for 9 abandoned puppies The Columbian 2-5-06

<http://www.columbian.com/news/localNews/02052006news140196.cfm>

No peace in annexation war

The Columbian 2-3-06

<http://www.columbian.com/news/localNews/02032006news136975.cfm>



What's On TV Tonight?

There is a lot on CVTV (channel 23) about Community Development. For example, you can watch the animal control, land use, and code enforcement hearings, as well as the county's Planning Commission. To see the complete schedule click here: www.cvttv.org. ★

Expanding our audience

Do you know others who would benefit from this information? Any list serves that would be appropriate for us to post this on? On the other hand, if you would like to be taken off our e-mailing list, just let us know. Contact Désirée at desiree.demonye@clark.wa.gov.★